

The Union and American.

VOL. VII.

GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1876.

NO. 46.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1876.
Petitions for the Texas Pacific Road were presented.

On motion of Morton, certain papers purporting to be the credentials of Mr. Eustis, as Senator from Louisiana, was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The Davis Treasury investigation resolutions were resumed. The resolution was so amended that the investigation will be made by the Finance Committee of the Senate, instead of a special committee and adopted by 28 to 22.

Booth, of California, voted with the Democrats in the minority.

A bill removing the disabilities of George G. Hawkins of Florida. Passed.

The bill creating the liquor commission was discussed.

HOUSE.

Several finance bills were introduced. One proposes funding legal tenders by forty year four per cent. bonds, and not over three millions per month.

Mr. Morrison, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a resolution directing the paper laid before the House and the testimony taken before the Committee of Ways and Means of the last Congress, in regard to the Pacific Mail subsidy, to be taken from the Speaker's table and referred to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to enquire what action should be taken in reference to persons now members of the House who are charged with complicity in corrupt use of money for that purpose, or with giving false testimony in relation thereto. The resolution was adopted.

The Select Committee was ordered to enquire into the nature and history of the real estate pool in which Jay Cooke & Co. were interested.

Rainey offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a full and complete report from the managers of the Freedman's Bank. Adopted.

Holman offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to enquire whether improper and fraudulent means were resorted to influence legislation on the Texas Pacific Railroad bill of March, 1871, and whether contracts to combination were subsequently entered into by the company in violation of the act. Adopted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The Committee on Privileges had Eustis and Pinchback up, with a desultory debate on Louisiana affairs. They will have it up more formally on Friday.

The Finance Committee of the Senate have agreed to report favorably on the nomination of McGrew as Auditor of the Postoffice Department.

The House Committee has agreed to report the bill allowing criminals to testify in certain cases. The object is supposed to be to learn what Joyce knows about whiskey frauds.

The Diplomatic Committee approves the reduction of salaries proposed by the Appropriations Committee for diplomatic and consular service.

The Appropriations Committee struck out the appropriation for seven clerks for the House of Representatives and reduced the salary of members of Congress from \$5000 to \$4000 and proposed to make a reduction of ten per cent. on all civil Government employees.

The House Committee on Appropriations has decided to reduce all salaries, commencing with their own.

The Committee on Education and Labor considered the bill reimbursing William and Mary College, in Virginia, for buildings destroyed during the war. No Southern nominations.

The President replies to the call of the House for the correspondence between this country and European nations other than Spain regarding Cuba, that there is none. The correspondence on that subject with other powers was in the shape of a note to American ministers to present to the several Governments and was not to be considered between this nation and other powers.

The Centennial bill passed by 146 to 130.

"John Henry," said his wife with stony severity, "I saw you coming out of a saloon this afternoon." "Well, madam," replied the obdurate John, "you would not have me stay in there would you?"

THE COTTON CLAIMS STEAL.

Probable Indictment of ex-Secretary Richardson—Further Startling Developments Expected.

[Special Dispatch to the World.]

WASHINGTON, January 23.—The revelation in the last discovered fraud upon the Treasury Department grows more important before the Grand Jury of this District, and it is among the rumors to-night that ex-Secretary Richardson, now one of the Judges of the Court of Claims, may be indicted, as it is alleged that he passed the cotton claim of Parkman, Brooke & Co. through the Treasury on a positive order to the First Auditor for payment. The ex-Secretary says that, if this prove true, he must have done it in the routine of business, for he has no recollection of the case. It now appears that this claim is not only a fraud in itself, but has actually been paid twice—once in 1866, when McCulloch was Secretary, and once in 1873-4, when Richardson was Secretary—payment in each instance amounting to \$60,000. In 1866, when the claim was paid, John A. Logan, now Senator, was the attorney in fact for the claimants according to the papers before the Grand Jury. When the claim was last paid, ex-Assistant Secretary Sawyer and Commissioner of Customs Haines had charge of it, and their indictment is probable. It is evident that some startling developments may be expected in this case when it comes to trial, as Treasury detectives have been working it up for the past month. It is rumored that, besides the bribes given to some officials, several small fry will be dragged in. Five hundred dollars will be proven to have floated through the air, and a present given to one lady of a gold watch, and another of a silk dress. The Grand Jury are on the scent, and going for victims in all directions, and braced up by the well-known wish of the President "to let no guilty man escape," and assisted in their efforts to uncover frauds by the same moral support that sharpened the senses of the late United States Grand Jury for Missouri.

A COLORED DELEGATE'S ROARING SPEECH IN THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

[Richmond Evening Journal, Jan. 7th.]

In the debate this morning in the Legislature on the Centennial appropriation, Peter J. Carter, the colored delegate from Northumberland county, arose, and urged on by the cries of "Hear him! hear him!" sounded in the well-known voices of ex-Governors Smith and Lechter, finally silenced another member who was advocating the bill, and, with a rapidity of articulation heretofore unknown, proceeded to speak. The noise and confusion prevented his first remarks being heard, but when order was restored his voice in clarion peals rang through the hall, sounding death to the Centennial: "Wherefore is it, and why I'm axin', never, no, sah. What? ten thousand dollars fur to be given away to Philadelphia? (Lechter, "Good." Smith, "Hear him.") Ole Fagin gin nigger tire. Cheers. Where's dis thing guyin to end? Let 'em go to see de show, but you hears my voice a sayin' still proximate your own expenses. Look at that statuary of General Washington. Look at Clay Calhoun. What is their fust thought? Yes, sah. De boy stood on de burnin' deck. (Applause, and cries from Lechter, Smith, "Go on.") Logan is de friend ob da white man. Mr. Logan is down on de black man. Stop and constitute dis expensive trip. Ticket to Baltimore, \$7.60; supper, lodging and breakfast, \$2 more. Ticket to Philadelphia, \$2.65. Admission to de show and side-show, at least 75 cents. Multiplying of this by five, count up de boxes, curiosities, trunks, policies, carpet-bags. [Immense cheers.] Look at de treasury; look at de money de Governor hav spent in postage stamps a fixin' fur dis occasion. "Old Mother Hubbard she went to de cupboard fur to git a poor dog a bone," when she came back de dog were eloped. Jess so—it will institution on er er. No, sah; I'm talkin' straight American language. Bunkum Hill, George Washington, John Brown, whar is you? Rise from you seats—say is I right—say is I justice, truth, and justice again.

Ex-Governor Lechter (rising from his seat)—Mr. Speaker, I move a motion be awarded to Virginia's son Carter. Seconded by Smith.

The motion was carried, and the Legislature adjourned for drinks.

A SAMPLE LOT.

Laconic Biographies of Some of the Members of the National Republican Committee.

The New York Sun prints brief sketches of some of the men who figured as members of the National Republican Committee. We give some of the sketches:

George E. Spencer, carpet-bagger, jobber, and senator from Alabama by fraud and corruption.

Powell Clayton, carpet-bagger, who misrepresents Arkansas, and author of troubles in that State.

George C. Gorham, political trader from California and Secretary of the Senate.

S. B. Conover, carpet-bagger from Louisiana, and inciter of strife in that State.

S. P. Packard, carpet-bagger from Louisiana, and inciter of strife in that State.

J. T. Averill, back pay grabber of last Congress from Minnesota.

W. E. Chandler, notorious lobbyist and jobber at Washington, claiming to represent New Hampshire.

A. G. Cattell, head of the navy ring, from New Jersey, and silent partner of Secor Robeson.

Joseph C. Abbot, carpet-bagger from North Carolina, whom Ben Butler repudiates as a bad investment.

B. R. Cowen, Delano's first assistant Secretary of the Interior, continued by Chandler, and one of the pillars of the Indian ring, from Ohio.

J. H. Mitchell, the much married Senator from Oregon with two names.

W. H. Kemble, from Pennsylvania, author of the following infamous letter:

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF PENN.—SYLVANIA, March 30th, 1867.

"MY DEAR TITEN: Allow me to introduce to you my particular friend, Mr. George O. Evans. He has a claim of some magnitude that he wishes you to help him in. Put him through as you would me. He understands addition, division and silence. Yours,

"W. H. KEMBLE.

"To Titten J. Coffey, Esq., Washington, D. C."

J. J. Patterson, carpet-bagger, Senator from South Carolina, who believes there "are five years of good stealing yet left in that State."

H. H. Welles, Jr., carpet-bagger, hailing from Virginia, but living in Washington. Son of former military governor, and assistant district attorney in place of Fisher, indicted.

S. B. Elkins, head of New Mexican ring and general jobber.

SHERMAN'S PROPOSED MONETARY UNIT.

The joint resolution offered by Senator Sherman proposing a convention between the United States and Great Britain, and which has attracted so much attention in England, is for the purpose of assimilating the gold coin and the money accounts of the two countries on terms and conditions stated in the resolution. The principal features embraced in the plan are as follows: The standard for gold coins is to be nine parts pure metal and one part alloy, and the monetary unit of the two countries is to be the gold dollar. The United States is to reduce the value of the present gold dollar about two and five-eighths per cent, which will make five dollars the exact equivalent of the present sovereign or pound sterling. The gold coins of the two countries are to be legal tender in both countries, and the decimal system of notation is to be adopted by Great Britain. Contracts entered into in America previous to this contemplated change are to be settled on the present gold dollar. No alteration will be required in the silver coins of either country, such coins being subsidiary to the gold coin and sufficiently overvalued to prevent their exportation.

A HYSTERIOUS SILENCE MAINTAINED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The Post-Office authorities here are entirely reticent for reasons which they consider of importance to the public service concerning the reported discovery of fraudulent seals upon bids for carrying the mails accepted by the department. The department detectives who have been investigating the matter decline to state at present what recent frauds, if any, have been discovered, and the Postmaster General himself has not been advised by them of the results of the examination which is still in progress. It is evident, however, that they are satisfied that frauds in addition to those discovered eighteen months ago have been perpetrated and they are still active in searching for the direct proof and the parties implicated.

A DEFENSE OF THE JEWS.

At the Union Tabernacle, Williamsburg, New York, the pastor of the congregation, Rev. Miller Hageman, lately delivered an eloquent and forcible defense of the Jews, against what he contended were serious misrepresentations of history. He denied that they murdered Christ, who, he said, was crucified by Roman soldiers. That they persecuted Him and disbelieved Him was true; but even as to this there were open opinions, for it has not been shown, nor can it be substantiated that the bulk of the Jewish people were opposed to Christ. They doubted Him, they disbelieved Him in part, but there were many—how many—who were the recipients of His miracles and love, who declared Him as Christ and who worshiped Him. The speaker further supposed that it be granted that the Jews as a nation were opposed to Christ, Himself a Jew, and contended that it only proved that they thought him an impostor, and in that belief acted as any other nation would to day in similar circumstances. If, further than this, the Jews be held as accessories or accomplices to the murder of Christ, and thus throw on them the actual fact of its stigma in its aftermath of history, he still averred that even if that all be so, they are not so culpable as Christians so-called, who, after Christ hath by infallible proofs been evidently set forth, betray Him by their conduct, open His wounds when they should heal in their hearts and put Him to an open shame—Christ was never so crucified as he is to-day. There are a thousand and a thousand men who practically play Pilate to him in the Hall of recent judgment who say by their action, "Away with Him." For the Jews he still contended that they deserved a gentler fate than prejudice, and merit a mention other than that of light scorn and capricious criticism. Further: the preacher urged that they exerted an intellectual influence upon their age more than that of any other nation before or after. For ten centuries before Origin they were the sole possessors of the Hebrew language. Their history, law and legend are the three treasure cities of the world. "What poetry David wrote, and Solomon! What visions and prophecies Jeremiah and Isaiah saw! What truths Paul, a Jew, taught at the feet of Gamaliel, a Jew, gave to the world! What a code of morals! What principles that shall stand forever as the pillar and ground of the truth!"

THE BLACK HILLS.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 25.—Special dispatches from Bismarck to the papers of this city, contain glowing accounts from the Black Hills. A party carrying the mail between Bismarck and Black Hills had returned, and give wonderful reports of the richness of the country. The report is vouched for as thoroughly trustworthy. Twelve men are now in that portion of the Black Hills through which Rapid creek runs. The average diggings are \$1 per hour to each man, and they saw \$137 taken out in six hours by four men. Next day the same force in the same time took out \$112. California Joe, a person of renown among the gold miners, saw \$34 taken out of one pan, there being one nugget worth \$30. All of the returning party brought specimens of gold of splendid quality. They all agree in the statements regarding the beauty and richness of the country, and say Custer's report was not at all exaggerated. A large party is preparing to start from Bismarck for the Hills, and will take a large amount of goods.

BABCOCK'S TRIAL.

WASHINGTON, January 23.—General Babcock's trial at St. Louis, which will take place as soon as that of William McKee, proprietor of the *Globe-Democrat*, is finished, promises not only to be the most important in the history of the Whiskey Ring as regards the position of the defendant, but the most notable in respect to the witnesses who have been and will be summoned to testify. It is understood to-night that General Babcock and his counsel have concluded the main details of his defense, and that one portion of it will require the attendance in Court of President Grant, Secretary Bristow and ex-Secretary Richardson to testify regarding it. They will not be formally summoned, but will be asked by counsel for the defense to appear and testify. In the case of the President it is not improbable that his evidence will be in the form of a deposition. When he was named in the investigation by Congress of the famous "Black Friday" a sub-committee called upon him, but never made use of his testimony. In the investigation in 1862 which was made into the premature publicity of an annual message of President Lincoln, the latter came promptly before the Committee of the Judiciary of the House and gave his evidence. So far as the summons of the Chief Executive is concerned in a public investigation, the precedent and the point has been raised in both ways. The object, however, in bringing these high officials into Court is to prove, it is alleged, that General Babcock never asked them for the appointment, promotion, retention or removal of any person connected with the St. Louis Whiskey Ring.

A BLUNDER BY THE COUNTY COURTS.

Several County Courts in this State have reduced the tax assessments in their respective counties very largely—in most cases as much as thirty-three and a third per cent. This was a positive violation of the law, and those who committed the blunders should reconsider their action without delay. The State Comptroller has addressed a letter upon the subject to the Revenue Collector of Madison county, in which he says: "Attorney General Heiskill is clearly of opinion that there is no authority in law for the action of the County Court in reducing the assessment. The assessor has made his returns, the tax books are in your hands, and you are charged at this office with the amount of tax aggregate, in accordance with these returns. To make a sweeping reduction of the assessment by 33 per cent. is simply equivalent to reducing the State tax from forty to twenty-seven cents—a power which is vested entirely in the Legislature. The County Court can fix, and it is their duty to fix the rate of taxation for county purposes, and can relieve the tax-payers of their county to some extent in that way. I know your county has been unfortunate in crops, &c., and it is doubtless, as you assert, a law-abiding community; and while I am not opposed to the relief of the people, I see no means of relief in this instance short of the Legislature. As said above, you have been charged with amount of State tax for 1875, as per tax aggregate rendered, and your account will be entitled only to such credits as may be provided for under the law, and aside from these credits you and your bondsmen are liable for the taxes as they now stand."

THE EMMA MINE SCANDAL.

[London Correspondence New York Tribune.]

The chairman of the Emma Mine Company stated to the shareholders, yesterday, with a frankness which leaves nothing to be desired, the nature of the remedies he is going to seek. I gave in my last letter the substance of the new directors' report, with Mr. McDougall's offer to pay the expenses of legal measures, and the proposal to hold a special meeting January 20, for the passing of a resolution to authorize him to act in the name and behalf of the company. In answer to a question at yesterday's general meeting, as to the nature of the resolution, the chairman said: "The purport of the resolution will be that Mr. McDougall shall be at liberty to take proceedings in the name of the company against the original directors for conspiracy to defraud, and for the purpose of putting aside a fraudulent contract."

So there we are! There is no reason to doubt that this resolution will be adopted a fortnight hence. When adopted, it puts into Mr. McDougall's hands the power of taking both civil and criminal proceedings against the original directors of the Emma Mine, one of them then and still American Minister. As if to remove all doubts whether Gen. Schenck is to be included in the prosecution, Mr. McDougall has already made public in his own paper the specific accusation that Gen. Schenck was bribed in the sum of \$50,000 by Mr. Trenor W. Park. We must make up our minds, therefore, to see the American Minister in the position of defendant on a criminal charge of conspiracy to defraud. Against the charge he may plead his privilege as Minister, which will be accepted by the English public as a confession of guilt. Or he may elect to waive his privilege, and take his stand on the dock with the rest, in the hope of persuading a British jury that when he accepted \$50,000 under the

form of a loan, with a secret guarantee from a total stranger, the fraudulent vendor of an empty mine, he was not selling the official title of American Minister, under which he was subsequently advertised in the newspapers as director and trustee.

LEE VALLEY.

A Letter from the Long Lost.—Circuit Court.—Recruits for Nashville.—Old Jack Lowder, the Wife Murderer.—A Skirmish With Moonshine Men, &c., &c.

LEE VALLEY, Jan. 22, 1876.

EDITORS UNION AND AMERICAN: Believing a few items from Hancock and Hawkins counties would interest your readers, venture to contribute a short letter.

Circuit Court was in session this week at Sneedville, Judge Gillenwaters presiding. Attorney-General Hacker, F. M. Fulkerson, Major Wm. B. Davis, Hugh Kyle, John Netherland, Jr., and Wm. Gillenwaters, were the legal gentlemen attending. The civil docket was uninteresting, and most of the criminal cases were continued until next term. Two gentlemen, however, received their commissions in the "Zebra Battalion," and will be ordered to join their regiment in Nashville soon. One is a young man named Steward, who delivered the prisoners from Sneedville jail last fall, for which he was sentenced to one year. A more appropriate sentence would have consigned him to a lunatic asylum for life, as he is certainly more idiot than criminal.

The other emigrant to the "Rock city" is old Jack Lowder, who has been a judicial foot-ball for the last five years. He was accused of the wilful murder of his wife, in order that he could marry a favorite mistress; and if the charge is true, he is guilty of murder in the first degree, the crime that brought Berry to the gallows. If the killing of his wife was purely accidental, which he claims, he is innocent, of course, and should have been acquitted. Yet,

"By some way that is dark, or trick that is vain,
Or judicial mystery, hard to explain,
Or fertile resource of some legal brain,
Or a new way of enring a murderers' pain."

Jack was allowed to submit to guilty of manslaughter, a crime for which he was never tried, and was sent up for two years.

If Jack is guilty, he ought to have been hung long ago. If innocent, he is surely a much abused man.

Some of the "Moonshiners" of Newman's Ridge are "hard mules to plow." Deputy U. S. Marshal Tom. Berry, came near losing the number of his scalp on the 15th inst., while carrying off a crooked still which he found operating in his diocese. Some of the swarthy stockholders in the concern, bushwhacked him, and I learn that one shot grazed his right wrist, drawing the blood slightly, but doing no injury. As Tom had only one man with him, he would not risk a skirmish encumbered with the old still; so with a skill acquired by much practice, he speedily reduced it to the condition of a three year old hornet's nest, and rode out from the hostile vicinity without further adventure.

I had the pleasure of attending a very interesting little wedding day before yesterday evening. Mr. Jas. F. Campbell, of Sneedville was united to Miss Orleans C. Rogers, of this valley. The knot was tied by the Rev. I. C. Brown, in his characteristic, neat and hangman-like manner. We hope the handsome and promising young couple may enjoy a long, useful, and happy life together, and that their future years may be crowned with much prosperity and honor.

Our community suffered a severe loss yesterday, in the death of Mrs. Nancy Willis, the wife of Major W. W. Willis. She leaves her husband and seven children to mourn for her; one little boy of only four summers, is left without a mother. We offer our profoundest sympathies to the bereaved family.

CLINCH.

Governor Hendricks is growing in the favor of the Ohio Democrats as their candidate for the Presidency. A Columbus correspondent, of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* says Mr. Hendricks is almost the unanimous second choice of the Democrats of the State now, and many of them have said that, unless Ohio can agree upon a candidate, they would like to see the delegation solid for Hendricks.

Kind words are among the brightest flowers of earth. They convert the humblest home into a paradise.